

lives for the ideals of freedom, democracy, and partnership with nations and people around the globe.

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the dedicated service and deep commitment of Ambassador John Christopher Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty in assisting the Libyan people as they navigate the complex currents of democratic transition marked in this case by profound instability;

(2) praises Ambassador Stevens, who represented the highest tradition of American public service, for his extraordinary record of dedication to the United States' interests in some of the most difficult and dangerous posts around the globe;

(3) sends its deepest condolences to the families of those American public servants killed in Benghazi;

(4) commends the bravery of Foreign Service Officers, United States Armed Forces, and public servants serving in harm's way around the globe and recognizes the deep sacrifices made by their families; and

(5) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the despicable attacks on American diplomats and public servants in Benghazi and calls for the perpetrators of such attacks to be brought to justice.

S. RES. 589

Whereas small businesses represent 99.7 percent of all businesses having employees (commonly referred to as "employer firms") in the United States;

Whereas small businesses employ ½ of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses pay 44 percent of the total payroll of the employees in the private sector in the United States;

Whereas small businesses are responsible for more than 50 percent of the private, non-farm product of the gross domestic product;

Whereas small businesses generated 65 percent of net new jobs during the last 17 years;

Whereas small businesses generate 60 to 80 percent of all new jobs annually;

Whereas small businesses focus on 2 key strategies: deepening relationships with customers and creating value for customers;

Whereas, for every \$100 spent with locally owned, independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through local taxes, payroll, and other expenditures;

Whereas 92 percent of consumers in the United States agree that the success of small businesses is critical to the overall economic health of the United States;

Whereas 93 percent of consumers in the United States agree that small businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue;

Whereas 91 percent of consumers in the United States have small businesses in their community that the consumers would miss if the small businesses closed;

Whereas 99 percent of consumers in the United States agree that it is important to support the small businesses in their community; and

Whereas 90 percent of consumers in the United States are willing to pledge support for a "buy local" movement: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 24, 2012, as "Small Business Saturday"; and

(2) supports efforts—

(A) to encourage consumers to shop locally; and

(B) to increase awareness of the value of locally owned small businesses and the impact of locally owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

S. RES. 585

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution, along with my colleague Senator TOM UDALL, recognizing the centennial anniversary of New Mexico's statehood.

For over 100 years, New Mexico, the "Land of Enchantment," has enriched the Nation with its magnificent landscapes, diverse people, and unique culture. New Mexico's road to statehood began in 1850 when the New Mexico Territory was established. Statehood was finally achieved on January 6, 1912 when President William Howard Taft signed the proclamation making New Mexico the 47th State of the Union. New Mexico's history long predates this, though, with the State's earliest inhabitants dating as far back as 11,000 B.C. The State's capitol, Santa Fe, is the oldest capital city in the United States, having been established by the Spanish in 1610.

New Mexico's beautiful deserts and mountains have been a magnet for visitors. It is no wonder that our State has inspired artists beginning with our earliest inhabitants. New Mexicans have a proud history of military service, and the State has served as a center for scientific innovation for over half a century through the national laboratories based there. Among New Mexico's agricultural products, its chile crop makes it the "Chile Capital of the World."

Given New Mexico's many contributions and accomplishments in its first 100 years as a State, and even before then, I am proud to introduce this resolution recognizing the extraordinary history and heritage of the State, and commending the State and its people on this centennial anniversary.

#### SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that from Saturday, September 22, through Tuesday, November 13, the majority leader and Senator LIEBERMAN be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

#### APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwith-

standing the Senate's recess, committees be authorized to report legislation and executive matters on Friday, November 2, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, THROUGH TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn and convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, September 25, at 9:30 a.m.; Friday, September 28, at 10 a.m.; Tuesday, October 2, at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 5, at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 9, at 11 a.m.; Friday, October 12, at 10:30 a.m.; Tuesday, October 16, at 10 a.m.; Friday, October 19, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, October 23, at 1 p.m.; Friday, October 26, at 1 p.m.; Tuesday, October 30, at 10 a.m.; Friday, November 2, at 11 a.m.; Tuesday, November 6, at 11 a.m.; Friday, November 9, at 10 a.m.; and that the Senate adjourn on Friday, November 9, until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; and that at 5:30 p.m. all postcloture time on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the Sportsmen's Act, be yielded back and the Senate proceed to a vote on the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, the next rollcall vote will be at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13, 2012.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, AT 9:30 A.M.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:03 a.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at 9:30 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

MARILYN A. BROWN, OF GEORGIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2017. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

VERA LYNN EVANS, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2017, VICE WILLIAM H. GRAVES, TERM EXPIRED.

MICHAEL MCWHERTER, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 18, 2016, VICE DENNIS BOTTORFF, TERM EXPIRED.